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10/042,366In the Claims:*Please amend the Claims as follows:*

1. (Original) A system for estimating the temporal validity of location reports through pattern analysis, said system comprising:

- a. a mode selector identifying a data analysis mode, said data analysis mode being an online mode when immediate analysis of location data is to be performed, and said data analysis mode being a batch mode when data analysis is triggered either manually or periodically;
- b. a receiver receiving location records from one or more tracked entities and storing said location records in one or more databases;
- c. an analysis trigger triggering data analysis tasks based upon said identified data analysis mode, said analysis trigger responsible for periodically forwarding to a classifier received location data in said batch mode, and said analysis trigger forwarding said received location data onto said classifier in said online mode;
- d. said classifier clustering and partitioning location data, and said classifier, in an online mode, receiving a single location data from a tracked entity and repartitioning already partitioned data in said databases corresponding to said tracked entity and based upon said received location data, and said classifier, in a batch mode, clustering and repartitioning location data in said databases corresponding to a tracked entity upon a request from said analysis trigger, and
- e. an expiration time analyzer performing pattern analysis and estimating expiration times associated with each of said repartitioned data computed by said classifier, said expiration times providing a measure of the degradation of location reports over a period of time.

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2. (Original) A system for estimating the temporal validity of location reports through pattern analysis, as per claim 1, wherein said expiration time analyzer further comprises:

- a. a time interval analyzer identifying several frequent time intervals between location reports in a cluster using a logarithmic time interval scale, and
- b. an expiration time extractor identifying an optimal expiration time from said identified intervals based upon a threshold.

3. (Original) A system for estimating the temporal validity of location reports through pattern analysis, as per claim 1, wherein said system communicates with said tracked entities via simple object access protocol (SOAP).

4. (Original) A system for estimating the temporal validity of location reports through pattern analysis, as per claim 1, wherein said system reduces required communication bandwidth by inhibiting transmission of location data during said estimated expiration times.

5. (Previously Presented) A method for increasing confidence for tracking information originating from one or more location positioning modules, said method comprising:

- a. receiving location reports from said one or more location positioning modules;
- b. storing said location reports in one or more databases;
- c. creating N optimal partitions for location reports corresponding to each of said location positioning modules;
- d. identifying via pattern analysis an expiration time associated with each of said created partitions; said pattern analysis comprising identifying several frequent time intervals between location reports in a cluster using a logarithmic time interval scale and identifying an optimal expiration time from said identified intervals based upon applying a threshold T, and

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e. utilizing said identified expiration times corresponding to each of said location positioning modules to identify an expiration time and placing increased confidence in location reports corresponding to said identified expiration time.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Original) A method for increasing confidence for tracking information originating from one or more location positioning modules, as per claim 5, wherein said tracked entities communicate via a simple object access protocol (SOAP).

8. (Original) A method for increasing confidence for tracking information originating from one or more location positioning modules, as per claim 5, wherein said method reduces required communication bandwidth by inhibiting transmission of location data during said estimated expiration times.

9. (Previously Presented) An article of manufacture comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein which increases confidence for tracking information originating from one or more location positioning modules, said article comprising:

- a. computer readable program code receiving location reports from said one or more location positioning modules;
- b. computer readable program code storing said location reports in one or more databases;
- c. computer readable program code creating N optimal partitions for location reports corresponding to each of said location positioning modules;

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- d. computer readable program identifying via pattern analysis an expiration time associated with each of said created partitions;
- e. computer readable program code utilizing said identified expiration times corresponding to each of said location positioning modules to identify an expiration time and placing increased confidence in location reports corresponding to said identified expiration time;
- f. computer readable program code identifying several frequent time intervals between location reports in a cluster using a logarithmic time interval scale; and
- g. computer readable program code identifying an optimal expiration time from said identified intervals based upon applying a threshold T.

10 – 16 (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A computer-based method for providing a measure of degradation associated with location reports over a period of time, said location reports corresponding to one or more tracked entities, said method comprising:

- a. setting a counter to point to ~~the location of a~~ first of said tracked entities;
- b. identifying and partitioning location reports associated with said first tracked entity into one or more clusters ~~associated with tracked entity pointed by said counter~~;
- c. ~~creating N optimal partitions for each of said identified clusters;~~
- d. identifying an optimal expiration time associated with each partition of said partitions via time interval analysis, said optimal expiration time providing a measure of degradation of a location report in a particular partition over a period of time;

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d. associating location reports in each partition with corresponding optimal expiration time;

e. incrementing said counter to point to next of said tracked entities and repeating steps b-d exhaustively for remainder of said tracked entities; and

f. providing a measure of degradation of a particular location report associated with a particular tracked entity based upon identified optimal expiration time in step d ~~wherein said location reports, corresponding to one or more tracked entities based upon said identified optimal expiration time, provide a level of confidence as to said location of said tracked entities.~~

18. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a measure of degradation associated with location reports over a period of time, as per claim 17, wherein said method further comprises the steps of:

a. identifying several frequent time intervals between location reports in ~~a~~ each cluster using a logarithmic time interval scale, and

b. identifying ~~an~~ said optimal expiration time from said identified intervals based upon a threshold.

19. (Original) A method for providing a measure of degradation associated with location reports over a period of time, as per claim 17, wherein said tracked entities communicate via a simple object access protocol (SOAP).

20. (Previously Presented) A computer-based method for providing a measure of degradation associated with location reports over a period of time, as per claim 17, wherein said method

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reduces required communication bandwidth by inhibiting transmission of said location reports during said identified optimal expiration time.

21. (Original) A method for estimating the temporal validity of location reports through pattern analysis, said method comprising:

- a. identifying a data analysis mode, said data analysis mode being an online mode when immediate analysis of location data needs to be performed, and said data analysis mode being a batch mode when periodic analysis of data needs to be performed;
- b. receiving location records from one or more tracked entities and storing said location records in one or more databases;
- c. triggering data analysis tasks based upon said identified data analysis mode, said analysis trigger responsible for periodically forwarding, to a classifier, received location data in said batch mode, and said analysis trigger forwarding said received location data onto said classifier in said online mode;
- d. clustering and partitioning location data and said classifier, in an online mode, receiving a single location data from a tracked entity and repartitioning already partitioned data in said databases corresponding to said tracked entity and based upon said received location data, and said classifier, in a batch mode, clustering and repartitioning location data in said databases corresponding to a tracked entity upon a request from said analysis trigger, and
- e. estimating expiration times associated with each of said repartitioned data computed by said classifier, said expiration times providing a measure of the degradation of location reports over a period of time.

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22. (Original) A method for estimating the temporal validity of location reports through pattern analysis, as per claim 21, wherein said method further comprises the steps of:

- a. identifying several frequent time intervals between location reports in a cluster using a logarithmic time interval scale, and
- b. identifying an optimal expiration time from said identified intervals based upon a threshold.

23. (Original) A method for estimating the temporal validity of location reports through pattern analysis, as per claim 21, wherein said tracked entities communicate via a simple object access protocol (SOAP).

24. (Original) A method for estimating the temporal validity of location reports through pattern analysis, as per claim 21, wherein said method reduces required communication bandwidth by inhibiting transmission of location data during said estimated expiration times.